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REPORTS

OF THE

WEST VA. COMMISSIONERS

CONCERNING

GETTYSBURG AND ANTIETAM

NATIONAL CEMETERIES.

WHEELING:
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1867.

REPORT OF HON. C. D. HUBBARD,

COMMISSIONER IN THE BOARD OF MANAGERS,

OF THE

NATIONAL SOLDIERS' CEMETERY,

AT

GETTYSBURG, PENN'A.

WHEELING, W. VA., JANUARY 2, 1867.

HIS EXCELLENCY ARTHUR I. BOREMAN,

Governor of West Virginia:

SIR:—Herewith I submit a copy of the proceedings, and Third Annual Report of the Commissioners composing the Board of Managers of the Soldiers' National Cemetery, at Gettysburg, Pa.

From this report you will perceive that the total amount received from all the States interested in the Cemetery, to the 30th of November, 1866, was $112,668 07. Of this amount there had been expended to the same date for purposes of the Cemetery, including $10,000 paid on account of the monument $77,416 03, leaving in the hands of the Treasurer at that date a balance of $35,252 04. Of this balance—with the view of making the fund as productive as possible until such times as it may be wanted for payment on the monument now in progress—$31,840 50 has been invested in United States seven-thirty Treasury notes, of the August issue.

On the 21st of May, 1866, a contract was entered into with J. G. Batterson, Esq., the designer for the construction of the monument according to the original design, for the sum of $47,500. On this contract $10,000 has been paid as before stated. Other payments are to be made as the work progresses, except the sixth and last payment of $12,500—which is to be paid on the completion of the

work according to the contract. Authority has been given by the Board of Managers to so modify the contract as to provide for the sculpture of certain *bas relief* figures on the buttresses which support the statues, provided it can be done for the sum of fifteen hundred dollars. By the terms of the contract, the monument is to be completed by the 1st day of July 1868.

This State has paid the full amount of its appropriation $2,523 18 for which provision had been made by Act of the Legislature, and no further call will be made on the State. A few of the States are yet in arrears on their final instalments, in one or two of which further legislative action will be required, but satisfactory assurances have been given that all will be paid at an early day. These amounts when paid, in addition to the funds now in the Treasury, are considered ample for all the work of the association, being sufficient for the construction of the monument and also leaving a small fund for the future preservation of the Cemetery and keeping the grounds in order.

The work upon the Cemetery proper has all been completed with the possible exception of setting out some additional trees and shrubbery. A few bodies have been found on the battle field since my last report and interred in the Cemetery. The whole number of dead now buried in the Soldiers' National Cemetery, is 3564, as follows:

Maine,	104	bodies.	Maryland;	22	bodies.
New Hampshire,	49	"	West Virginia,	11	"
Vermont,	61	"	Ohio,	131	"
Massachusetts,	159	"	Indiana,	80	"
Rhode Island,	12	"	Iliinois,	6	"
Connecticut,	22	"	Michigan,	171	"
New York,	867	"	Wisconsin,	73	"
New Jersey,	78	"	Minnesota,	52	"
Pennsylvania	534	"	U, S. Regulars,	138	"
Delaware,	15	"	Unknown dead,	979	"
Total,				3,564	

At the late annual meeting held December 12, 1866, David Wills, Esq., of Pennsyvania, was elected President, John R. Bartlett, Esq., of Rhode Island, Secretary, and Samuel R. Russell, of Pennsylvania, Treasurer. The commissioners of the several States charged with the care of the Cemetery will use every effort to make it a resting place worthy of the noble dead there interred, and honorable to the States thus perpetuating the memories of their citizens, who on that battle field laid down their lives for the Republic.

Very Respectfully,

C. D. HUBBARD, *Com'r*.

REPORT OF G. L. CRANMER, ESQ.,

COMMISSIONER IN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE

ANTIETAM NATIONAL CEMETERY,

AT

ANTIETAM, MD.

HON. A. I. BOREMAN,

SIR:—As one of the Board of Trustees of Antietam National Cemetery, representing the State of West Virginia, I respectfully beg leave to submit to your consideration and attention the following statement connected therewith:

The original idea of the establishment of a Cemetery on the battle field of Antietam was originated by the State of Maryland, the Legislature of which State made an appropriation of $7,000 for that purpose which was increased at a subsequent session of the Legislature by an additional appropriation of $8,000, making the whole sum appropriated by the State of Maryland to amount to $15,000.

In pursuance of the above "Act" (passed in January 1865,) the first meeting of the Trustees therein named was held at Hagerstown, in May following, and an organization was effected, electing Dr. Augustine A. Biggs, President, and Thos. A Boullt, Secretary and Treasurer. Appeals have been made to the various States represented by loyal dead, which have in many instances been promptly responded to, while in others the Executives of the several States have given it their earnest sympathies and have promised to lay the matter before their respective Legislatures at the earliest moment after their assembling.

Our own gallant little State has been one of the foremost in promptly making the appropriation apportioned to her.

The first meeting of the Board attended by your Trustee, was held in the city of Baltimore on the 7th of March, 1866, at which

time I had the honor of reporting the appropriation made by the State of West Virginia at the preceding session of her Legislature, which met in January 1866, to wit: ---------- $1,672 44

At the same meeting the following additional appropriations from other States, were also reported; Maine, 2,787 40

And Minnesota, ---------- 500 00

Also, Pennsylvania, first instalment, ---------- 5,000 00

And Massachusetts, " " ---------- 4,000 00

At a subsequent meeting of the Board, held at Sharpsburg, Md., on the 1st of August, 1866, another appropriation was reported made by New Jersey, ---------- 5,000 00

Assurances have been received from other States interested in this patriotic undertaking that their Legislatures on assembling will make the appropriations apportioned to them respectively. Every cent of the money thus received has been faithfully applied to the purpose for which it was intended. The Cemetery grounds, including about ten acres, so located as to overlook almost the entire battle field, have been beautifully graded, and the whole is surrounded by a solid stone wall and coping.

On the 20th of September last, at a meeting of the Board held in the city of Baltimore an appropriate gateway and ground plan was adopted. The plan forms within the walls of the Cemetery a semi-ellipsis, divided into sections of varying size to correspond with the number of the Union dead from the different States. The ground devoted to this purpose begins at a point about one hundred and thirty feet from the entrance, thus leaving a large space immediately in front.

In response to a request by a Committee appointed on behalf of the Board, the Secretary of War has kindly consented to give three thousand coffins in which to bury the loyal dead, thus relieving the Board of a large item of expenditure.

It is probable that the dedication of the grounds to the sacred uses for which they are intended will take place on the anniversary of the battle—the 17th day of September.

In conclusion, I have to say that the officers of the Board—Dr. Biggs and Hon. Thos. A. Boultt—the President and Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, have given their earnest and undivided attention to the completion of the work, and each of them take a deep and heartfelt interest in its success. It is with them a labor of love.

With high esteem, I am Respectfully Yours,

G. L. CRANMER,

Trustee of Antietam Nat. Cemetery.

WHEELING, DECEMBER 1866.